

271,554 was the TIMES' circulation for last week.

The STAR'S circulation for last week was 188,015

The Evening Times

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VOL. 1. NO. 185.

WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 6, 1896.

ONE CENT.

PERCHED ON TOP THE POLE

President Thomas' Linemen Were Safe From Arrest.

POLICEMEN WAITED BELOW

Two Electric Wire Stringers Grinned at the Commands of the Officers to Come Down and Get in the Patrol Wagon—The Officials Taken Into Custody for Erecting the Pole.

Two grinning electric light linemen perched upon a telegraph pole, three policemen underneath vainly ordering them to come down, a patrol wagon yearning for prisoners, and an amused crowd of laughing and jeering onlookers, was the scene presented at the northeast corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Fifteenth street this morning about 10 o'clock.

It was the climax of the erection, under cover of darkness, at midnight last night, of the telegraph pole in the face of a refusal of the District Commissioners to issue a permit for the work to be done.

A short time previously President A. A. Thomas, of the United States Electric Light Company, was arrested on a warrant charging him with defacing public property. Frederick H. Chamberlain, superintendent of the company, and William W. Barnett, a lineman, were arrested on the charge of occupying public space without authority. The second charge was also applicable to Capt. Thomas.

THE CAUSE OF THE TROUBLE.

The particular pole that caused all of the trouble was erected just after midnight this morning at the corner of Fifteenth street and Pennsylvania avenue. An old decayed pole, that every minute threatens to deposit its upper half on the heads of pedestrians below, stands right beside the new one.

Some days ago Capt. Thomas asked the Commissioners to permit him to change the



Linemen Laughed at the Policemen.

pole for a new one. They told him there was a conduit handy and to put the wires in that. The president of the company said the conduit was already overgrown, and gave notice that the pole would go up, even if the whole Metropolitan police force tried to prevent it.

And the pole is up.

Capt. Thomas consulted with his men yesterday, and just as the clocks were striking 12 last night, almost a score of linemen came up Fifteenth street with a pole on a wagon. It was just the time of the "shift" in the patrol squad, and quicker than it takes to tell it the pole was in place.

Patrolman Oriant got back to his beat just in time to see enough to alarm him, and acting under orders he swore out a warrant for the president of the company this morning.

When Capt. Thomas heard of the warrant he immediately went to the first precinct station-house.

THE LINEMEN WOULDN'T BUDGE.

In the meantime Policemen Mellin, acting upon the instructions of Lieut. Ames, had laid in wait in the neighborhood of the pole, and when he saw Supt. Chamberlain and several linemen near the pole, he laid hands on the linemen and ordered them to get down from the pole.

By the time the wagon, in charge of Patrolman Loftus and Driver Tom Van Zandt, arrived two of the men had climbed the pole, a third had his hand in the wagon looking for wire, and the superintendent was standing on the sidewalk.

Policemen Mellin was left, however, to man looking in the cart, and gave him a yank that jerked the ladder off the vehicle, and started him on a jump for the patrol wagon. Then he turned his attention to the two men in the network of wires at the top of the pole.

"Come down from there, you men!" shouted Loftus.

"We don't want to," they shouted back derisively, as they went grinning on with the work.

"Why don't you climb de pole after 'im?" asked a messenger boy, whose sympathies were plainly with the men.

"You men stay up there and finish the work," shouted Supt. Chamberlain, as he began to fear the two would weaken. "He's not going to shoot you."

Then Loftus called out to Mellin from the wagon:

"This man gave them instructions to stay there, Mr. Mellin. Put him under arrest, too."

CARRIED THEM TO THE STATION.

Mr. Mellin took the superintendent by the arm and marched him off to the wagon, but neither threats nor entreaties could prevail upon the two linemen in the wires to come down.

The wagon with the two prisoners went back to the station-house, where Capt. Thomas arrived before them.

Policemen Mellin caught Barnett, and with the two men at the top of the pole, he tried the rope used by them to lift material and tools around the bottom of the pole, and then sat up there and big steps at the entrance of the Corcoran building to see that the men did not get away by walking over the wires that led to the pole on the sidewalk of Pennsylvania avenue.

AT THE POLICE COURT.

Capt. Thomas, Chamberlain and Barnett went to police court with Policemen Williams. The warrant was replaced by the assistant district attorney, and the personal bonds of Capt. Thomas were taken. He also went on the bonds of his two employees, and all three will appear in police court next Monday morning.

The three men laughed and chatted as Mr. Pugh made out the informations.

"I don't doubt that Major Powell will have a warrant for me pretty soon, charging me with contempt," said Capt. Thomas, laughing. "Why, we had to do something. The Western Union people promised that

pole for us only yesterday to keep it from falling over a wagon we were to do."

"How many men did you have to put it up?" as the reporter.

"Oh, we had enough."

"Was it true that you were there watching it in person?"

"No, I was at home and asleep at the time."

"What will be your defense to the charge?"

"I can't tell, for I haven't made that out yet."

The three men left the police court. Policemen Mellin watched on, however. An ever-increasing crowd had gathered about the two men up the pole. They were without material to work with and all they could do was to sit on the large crossbars and laugh at the crowd below.

Shortly after 12 o'clock they asked the officer to send them up their lunch baskets. He replied if they would come down they could get them.

Fifteen minutes later the baskets came sliding down two telephone wires that ran from the top of the old pole to the roof of the Corcoran building. Some friend had climbed on top of the big building and dropped the two baskets down the wires.

The two linemen sat and ate on the cross pieces, while the crowd below cheered.

Shortly before 1 o'clock Mr. Chamberlain returned to the pole and directed the two men to climb down. Their names were Daniel Scanlon and Philip F. Bashford.

The waiting policeman immediately placed the linemen and the pole in the hands of the station house. They were carried to the police court, where Capt. Thomas went on their bond to appear Monday.

The men succeeded in getting three wires strung on the new pole, and they were carried to the station house. They were carried to the police court, where Capt. Thomas went on their bond to appear Monday.

"The will do for the present," said Mr. Chamberlain, "and it will be enough to show whether we have the right to make the change or not."

NO BALTIMORE EXPOSITION

Majority of Directors Sign Resolutions to Abandon the Project.

ITALY WILD WITH RAGE

Mobs in the Cities Rioting and Destroying Property.

CONFLICT WITH TROOPS

Soldiers, Policemen and Civilians Injured—Notice Given of a Motion to Parliament Demanding the Abandonment of the Italian Colony in Abyssinia.

HOUSE IS STILL HARPING

Marshals' Fee and Salary Bill Consumes Another Session.

BOLDLY DEFIES THE LAW

Immense Crowd Surrounds the House of Outlaw Etlinger.

SPAIN HAS A WAR FEVER

Cadiz Arsenal Hard at Work Making Guns and Ammunition.

APOLOGIZES FOR INSULTS

Pal Mail Gazette's Madrid Correspondent Denies Truth of Report That France Has Offered to Loan Her Neighbor Money, and Declares Spain Has Made No Alliances as Yet.

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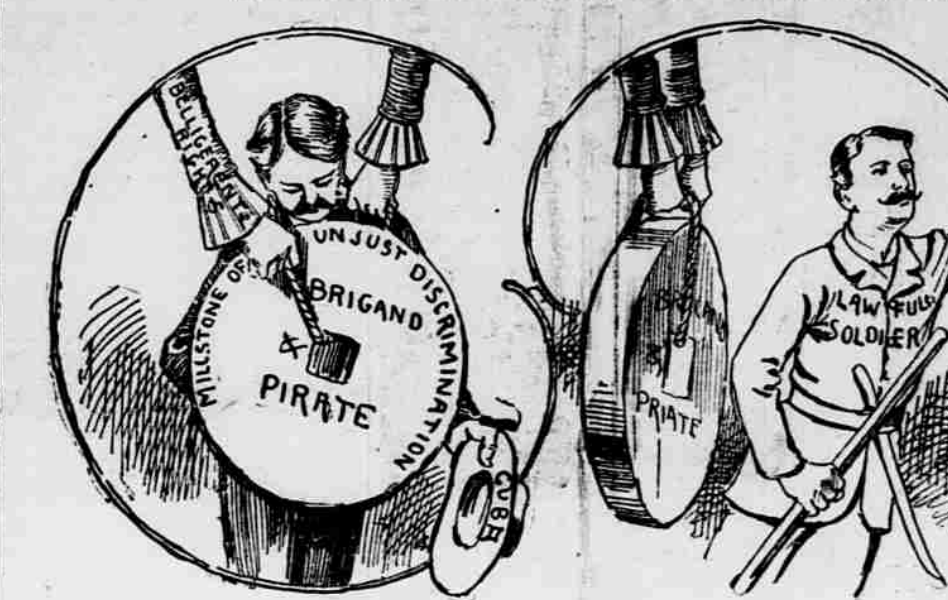
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BELLIGERENT RIGHTS ILLUSTRATED.



A Fair Fight and No Favorites.

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RUSH TO THE GOLD FIELDS

Hundreds of Miners Bound for the Interior of Alaska.

San Francisco, March 6.—The steamer City of Puebla, which sailed yesterday, had on board a large party of miners bound for the gold mines, 700 miles in the interior of Alaska. Their destination is forty miles from Birch Creek, near Dyer settlement, which they expect to reach in May. The party is fully equipped.

VICTORY FOR THE PAPER

Label Suits Against the Utica Observer Disposed of.

Utica, N. Y., March 6.—The Tyndale Palmer and De Freitas suits against the Utica Observer, tried in Rome before Judge Scripture, ended yesterday afternoon. The Palmer suit for \$25,000 re-solved in a verdict of only \$25 for the defendant, "no cause of action."

In both the Observer suits the defense pleaded the truth of the alleged libelous publication and produced as a witness Herbert E. White, of Brooklyn, who went to South America after the transactions of Palmer and De Freitas in Rio Janeiro and reported to the Webster Incandescent Light Company, of Philadelphia, of which White's uncle, Gazzam, was vice-president.

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